

woman trustee and chair of the Texas Bar Foundation and first recipient of the Dallas Bar Association's Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award. In 1995, she received the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, placing her among other outstanding recipients Attorney General Janet Reno, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and former U.S. Representative Barbara Jordan.

For all of these reasons and more, I submit this tribute here today, for a great Texas lady.

IN HONOR OF CYPRUS FREEDOM FIGHTERS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the historic achievements of brave Greek-Cypriot freedom fighters. They are being honored by Justice for Cyprus and the Cyprus Federation of America, two philanthropic organizations that trace their roots back to Cyprus.

On April 1st, we will celebrate the 41st anniversary of Ethniki Organosis Kyprion Agoniston [EOKA]. This organization is a group of dynamic Cypriot freedom fighters who struck the first blow for independence for Cyprus. More than four decades ago, their acts of courage led to a 4-year struggle against British colonization and occupation.

EOKA's struggle for independence is joined with the American colonists who struggled against the British colonization and occupation in America over 200 years ago. These Greek-Cypriot lovers of democracy and freedom not only fought for Cyprus' independence, but they also fought on the battlefield against tyranny during world War II.

Today we commemorate all the heroes of Cyprus including Gregorios Afxentiou, Kyriakos Matsis, Evaghoras Pallikarides, and Michael Karaolis, who gave their lives for freedom. By their sacrifice, they join America's Revolutionary War hero Patrick Henry, who freely gave of his life and summed up his commitment to freedom with the statement, "Give me liberty or give me death."

Cyprus became independent in 1960. Unfortunately, liberation was short lived; Turkey invaded Cyprus in 1974. Today, one third of Cyprus remains occupied by Turkey. Once again, these heroes have been called upon to fight for the liberty and independence of their country.

On this day, we celebrate freedom. When migrating to the United States, the Greek-Cypriots brought with them their love of Cyprus, culture and democracy. The Cyprus Federation of America, Justice for Cyprus, and EOKA serve as important links with Cyprus' past, but also act as a springboard for its future. These organizations remain committed to the campaign for freedom and human rights in Cyprus today. They also help young Greek-Cypriot Americans who will play an important role in the growth and success of the United States.

So Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in the commemoration of Cypriot freedom fighters and in wishing the people of Cyprus long-lasting peace and liberty.

TRIBUTE TO LOIS VELLIQUETTE ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant in northwest Ohio. On March 31 of this year, Lois Velliquette, a Federal employee for over 36 years, will retire.

Lois can look back on her career with great pride. During the course of her service, she has held clerical, technical, and claims representative positions. Because of her extensive experience, she has become a recognized expert in many areas with the office and has received numerous performance awards for her work. Through her caring and dedicated efforts, she has literally improved the lives of a tremendous number of Sandusky residents.

Americans would not be able to enjoy the blessings of our country without the tireless dedication of those who have the talent and willingness to work for the community. It is for this reason we owe a special debt of gratitude to people like Lois, who have done an outstanding job first with the Department of the Army and for the last 31 years with the Social Security Administration.

Mr. Speaker, we have often heard that America works because of the unselfish contributions of her citizens. I know that Ohio is a much better place to live because of the dedication and countless hours of effort given by Lois Velliquette. While she may be leaving her official capacity, I know she will continue to be actively involved in those causes dear to her.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying a special tribute to Lois, and wishing her all the best in the years ahead.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my friend, and idol, the late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan as Woman of the Year. She was a renaissance woman, eloquent, fearless, and peerless in her pursuit of justice and equality.

Congresswoman Jordan began her public career as a Texas State senator. She served her country with great distinction as a Member of Congress and as a member of the House Judiciary Committee.

She exalted us all to strive for excellence, to stand fast for justice and fairness, and to yield to no one in the matter of defending and upholding the most sacred principles of Democratic Government.

Barbara Jordan was a lawyer, legislator, scholar, author, and Presidential adviser. She was immensely gifted, and used every bit of her talent and skill to address, improve, and dignify the conditions of human life.

In the tradition of Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King Jr., and Thurgood Marshall, she

challenged the Federal Government and the American people to uphold the principles set forth in the American Constitution.

She gained national prominence in the 1970's as a member of the House Judiciary Committee during the impeachment hearings of President Richard Nixon. Her eloquent statement regarding her faith in the Constitution helped the Nation to focus on the principle that all elected officials, including the President, must abide by the mandates of the Constitution. We know what it took for Barbara Jordan to say "yea" when the House Judiciary Committee roll was called on July 30, 1974, and we are still admiring her for it.

During her tenure in Congress, Congresswoman Barbara Jordan was a leader on issues relating to voting rights, consumer protection, energy, and the environment. She leaves the American people, particularly Members of Congress, a powerful legacy of commitment to freedom, integrity in government, and belief in human progress.

We realize that Barbara Jordan was a tremendous moral force and she was calling upon all of us to account for our conscience as a nation. Her untimely death leaves a great void in our national leadership, and she is sorely missed as we grapple with the great moral issues of the day.

HONORING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the Greek community to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Greek independence.

On March 25, 1821, the Archbishop of Patras blessed the Greek flag at the Aghia Lavra Monastery near Kalavrita, marking the beginning of the Greek war of independence in which nearly 400 years of Ottoman rule were turned aside.

Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democratic values. It brought forth the notion that the ultimate power to govern belongs in the hands of the people. It inspired a system of checks and balances to ensure that one branch of government does not dominate any other branch.

These ideals inspired our Founding Fathers as they wrote the Constitution. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "to the ancient Greeks * * * we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness."

Together we face many challenges today, including the territorial integrity of Imia in the Aegean Sea and the demilitarization of Cyprus. If freedom and democracy, which were born in Greece, can tear down the Berlin Wall and break apart the Soviet Union, then I know that we can work together to bring those ideals once again to Cyprus.

Today, the United States is enriched not only by Greek principles but also by its sons and daughters. Greek-Americans have made major contributions to American society, including our arts, sports, medicine, religion, and politics.

My home State of Michigan has been enhanced by the Greek community. In Macomb and St. Clair Counties, we are served by St.